GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2143
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2001
NATIONAL PROFESSORSHIP SCHEME IN ICAR
BALIRAM

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the country has been benefited in terms of development in the agricultural sector by spending funds on the scheme of National professorships for a period of five years in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR);

(b) the details of funds spent under this scheme during the last three years and the benefits derived by the Council therefrom;

(c) whether the Government propose to review this scheme in the interest of ICAR; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)& (b): The scheme has benefited the country tremendously by addressing key areas crucial to Indian Agriculture. The project has increased the visibility and impact of Indian Science in international scenario by generating techniques, material and manpower of high caliber important for productive and efficient agriculture. A total of Rs. 481 lakhs have been spent on National Professor scheme during the last three years. Some of the benefits derived include: development of Pusa neem golden urea giving 36% increased rice yield; transgenic rohu fish growing 6 times faster; technique for sex reversal in fishes; identification and characterization of indigenous sources of temperature sensitive genic male sterility (TGMS) in rice; characterization of drought tolerance in wheat; Dot Immunobinding Assay (DIA) for on the spot diagnosis of animal rotavirus disease and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques for the management of pests of major crops.

(c) & (d): No, Sir. It is a prestigious scheme of ICAR yielding desired results and there is no plan to review at this stage.